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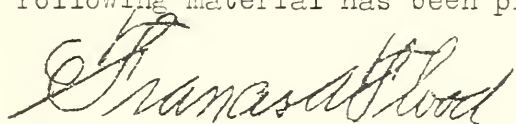
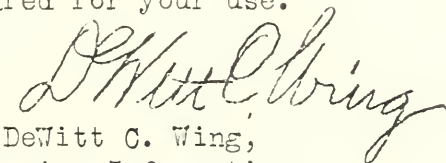
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Adjustment Administration
Alfred D. Stedman, Assistant Administrator
Director, Division of Information and Records

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TO FARM JOURNAL EDITORS:

The following material has been prepared for your use.

Francis A. Flood and DeWitt C. Wing,
Field Specialists in Extension Information.

EXCESSIVE CHARGES FOR DUPLICATE HOG SALES RECORDS

Hog producers in several regions recently have registered complaints with the Agricultural Adjustment Administration against excessive charges by country commission firms and other marketing agencies for duplicate sales slips and other verifications of records needed by signers of the corn-hog reduction contracts. In regard to this subject, the Administration says:

"Commission firms and other agencies who are taxing farmers excessively for records of hog marketings, are overlooking the value of keeping the goodwill of their patrons. Farmers who are charged unduly high rates will in many instances retaliate by shipping their hogs to other agencies in the future. It appears that in most cases commission firms are happy to offer this service to farmers in appreciation of past business. In some cases, commission houses have even printed special forms which give the name and address of the farmer, the date his hogs were marketed and the number of head sold."

In signing a corn-hog contract, the farmer is required to compile a record of the number of hogs he produced for market from the litters which he owned when farrowed during the period December 1, 1931 to November 30, 1933, inclusive. He must also compute his total number of feeder pigs bought and sold during the two-year base period. In compiling this record of his hog marketings, the farmer is required to state to whom or through whom the hogs were sold, the date of sale, the number of head sold, and the average weight of the hogs when sold.

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MORE WHEAT PAYMENTS

Now that the first wheat adjustment payments to wheat farmers are being completed, with some 55 million dollars already paid, out of the approximately 67 million that the total first payment includes, wheat farmers are beginning to

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think about the second payment to be made under their contract to reduce their 1934 acreage by 15 per cent.

The first payment is being made at the rate of 20 cents per bushel on the farm allotment. The second payment, which will be made this spring or summer, after inspection, will be at the rate of 8 cents per bushel, less the cost of administering the program in each county. Although both the application and the contract itself, which the farmer signed, provided that the local county expense would be deducted from the second payment in this manner, there is evidence of a little misunderstanding of this by some farmers, according to officials of the wheat section.

Only the local expenses incident to the production control program are paid by the farmers, and this money of course stays right in the county and for the most part will be spent there. These local costs will range from less than one cent, in some counties, to several cents per bushel on the farm allotment, depending on how many contracts and how many bushels of wheat are involved. This procedure of having the production control program self-supporting by the farmers themselves is in line with the program outlined by President Roosevelt in his Topeka speech when he stressed the point that any ^{form of} farm relief should pay its way.

Inspection of the farms for which wheat contracts have been signed will be made in the spring after the spring planting has been finished. This conforms to the original program, since the farmers agreed in Section 10 of their contracts to the inspection and also to furnish inspectors with information on acreage and production. This inspection will be made through the county wheat production control associations, with additional checking to be done by representatives of the wheat section of the Adjustment Administration.

In addition to the payment now being made and the payment of 8 cents per bushel, less local expenses, to be made after the spring inspection, cooperating wheat farmers will receive four more payments, two in 1934 and two in 1935 unless wheat prices reach parity during the term of their contracts.

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1934 COTTON CAMPAIGN
CLOSES SUCCESSFULLY

Incomplete reports from the 16 cotton producing States showed that over 780,000 contracts had been sent in by the county workers to the State offices by February 16. These contracts offer more than 12½ million acres to be withheld from cotton production for 1934. Cully A. Cobb, chief of the cotton section, Agricultural Adjustment Administration, expressed himself as confident that complete returns would reveal that approximately the amount of acreage sought would be offered by cotton producers. On February 15 the program was declared effective and the Contract Records Section of the A A A was instructed to send out individual acceptances to producers who have signed contracts.

"It is the policy of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration to give every eligible producer an opportunity to participate in the production control programs," said Administrator Chester C. Davis. "Consequently, arrangements have

"been made to give a reasonable time after February 15 for the field forces to complete their work and to finish negotiations with individual producers who have not yet signed contracts."

"The earlier these contracts are received in Washington," Mr. Cobb said, "the earlier the first payments will be distributed to the producers. Every effort will be made to disburse the first payments so that a substantial number of producers will be enabled to utilize these funds for making their crop."

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U. M. DICKEY ASKED TO HEAD DAIRY SECTION

At the request of Secretary Wallace and Administrator Chester C. Davis, and with the approval of President Roosevelt, the position of chief of the dairy section in the Agricultural Adjustment Administration has been offered to U. M. Dickey, Seattle, Wash. He is president of the Consolidated Dairy Products Co., a farmer-owned cooperative with 16,000 members, operating in the states of Washington, Idaho and Montana.

A native of Minnesota, Mr. Dickey went to Seattle in 1909, and spent 10 years there as a manager of independent creameries and milk plants. In 1919 he became identified with the cooperative movement and helped organize and develop the marketing work of the United Dairymen's Association, whose members are stockholders in the Consolidated Dairy Products Co. This organization is the only cooperative producers' association which is a direct party to the existing evaporated milk marketing agreement under the Agricultural Adjustment Act. Mr. Dickey is a member of the evaporated milk manufacturers' control committee under the agreement.

If Mr. Dickey accepts the position, he will succeed J. H. Mason, acting chief of the dairy section since early in December. Mr. Mason had been previously selected by the Farm Credit Administration as president of the Cooperative Bank of Omaha, and that Administration had granted him a temporary leave of absence from his duties as a courtesy to the Agricultural Adjustment Administration. On retiring Mr. Mason said:

"I am assured by every sign I read along the road that producers want to adjust their business and get away from the effects of fluctuations and sharp ups and downs in the market. These will continue so long as there is no organized attempt to provide voluntary control for the milk business....Our cow population is no smaller and perhaps somewhat greater than last year at this time. Will we repeat the experience of 1933? Much depends on consumer buying power for dairy recovery, and we do not know how much we can depend on that alone....My parting suggestion to cooperatives is that they should give heed to the various proposals advanced by their own members and by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration officials, so that dairy farmers may move forward in an organized, intelligent way to settle their own problems."

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RICE AGREEMENT HAS TENTATIVE APPROVAL

Secretary Wallace has tentatively approved a proposed new marketing agreement for the Southern rice milling industry, which provides for a crop control plan for rice grown in Louisiana, Arkansas and Texas. The proposed agreement is to be presented to Southern rice millers for signature before it is made effective.

Crop control under the proposed agreement would be accomplished by allotting to each of the three States a total quantity of rice to be produced during the crop year. Acreages would be allotted and production quotas set for individual producers applying for them. Adjustment payments to producers who are parties to the agreement would be made from a trust fund provided for in the agreement, into which millers would pay 40 per cent of the price of each lot of rice purchased. Minimum prices for their quotas of rice are guaranteed producers.

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PRODUCTION CONTROL FOR PEANUTS RECOMMENDED

Making peanuts a basic agricultural commodity under the Agricultural Adjustment Act, and developing a production-control program for the peanut growing industry have been recommended to Secretary Wallace in a report by the control board provided for in the peanut marketing agreement now in effect. Five peanut growers and five peanut millers constitute this board, which was recently organized in Washington, with H. C. Smither, Norfolk, Va., as chairman, H. A. Petty of Dawson, Ga., vice-chairman, and A. H. Ochsner, Spring Grove, Va., secretary.

After a study of the situation indicated the possibility of increases in peanut acreage and production, the board decided to recommend production control. The prices to farmers for peanuts from the 1933 crop were about double those of the previous two seasons. Approximately 5,000,000 acres will be released from cotton production in 1934 in areas which now produce peanuts commercially. This land, under the cotton contract, cannot be planted to other crops which would produce a surplus, but peanut producers fear that farmers may use their extra labor and equipment to plant peanuts on land not covered by the contracts.

It was estimated that if only 10 percent of the equivalent acreage which will be released from cotton in the peanut growing counties were planted to peanuts it would increase peanut production by approximately 40 percent. There is also some apprehension that peanut production may be increased in counties where the crop is not now grown commercially, but could easily be grown under the stimulus of better prices.

A sub-committee of the control board has conferred with officials of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration to further consider a program for production control. The board urged immediate action by the Secretary as the planting season will soon begin in parts of the peanut belt.

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Editors' Conference Notes.

Editors attending Secretary Wallace's conference here next week will be glad to know that a stenographic report of the discussions at the various meetings will be prepared and furnished to the editors.

The first meeting will be held in Secretary Wallace's office at 10 o'clock on Thursday morning, February 22. If any of you arrive in town before that time we will be glad to have you look us up. Our offices are Nos. 5929 and 5927, South Building. (The South Building is just across the street from the Main Building, Department of Agriculture.)

DeWitt Wing and Francis Flood.

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